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(b) Applications from the Madras Boy Scouts Association and the Girl Guides Association for increase of their grants from Rs. 7,500 to Rs. 10,000 and from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 8,000, respectively, have been received and are under consideration.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" May I ask, Sir, when the application was received for increased grant? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I cannot say."

Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" May I know whether the Government get copies of the accounts from these two institutions and what amount was spent by way of travelling allowance for the chief officers? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" Accounts are kept and they are scrutinized by the department of Education. I cannot say how much is spent for travelling allowance and how much on other items."

Collection of fees from elementary school pupils in addition to the levy of education-tax.

* 474 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether school fees are collected from pupils in elementary schools under public management even in districts where education-tax has been levied;

(b) in which of such districts such fees are collected and in which they are not;

(c) whether elementary education is made absolutely free for both boys and girls in each of such districts or whether it is either for girls or for boys;

(d) if there is no uniform policy in this matter, what the reasons therefor are; and

(e) whether any district board has represented to the Government or to the Director of Public Instruction during 1934–35 or so far during the current year for making elementary education free in their area, and if so, what their names are, when they applied and what disposal has been done in each case?

A.—(a) *to* (d) There is no objection to a local body collecting fees in elementary schools under its control even though it levies an education-tax. The Government have no information as to which of the local bodies levying education-tax collect fees in elementary schools under them.

(e) No representation has been received by Government nor are they aware that any representation has been made to the Director of Public Instruction on the subject.

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Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is really justifiable to collect fees for imparting elementary education and at the same time collect an education-tax in any particular area, as it will affect the ryot population very much?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" It is open to the local bodies to abolish fees; but Government cannot compel them to do so."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is not the policy of Government to compel local bodies to make additional contributions to the Elementary Education Fund from the general revenues even when the local bodies abolish the collection of school fees in their elementary schools and thus scare them away in the matter of abolition of school fes?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" The Government have not abolished any fee."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Is it not a fact that girls' schools have been exempted from the collection of this fee? If so, why not the boys' schools also be shown the same treatment?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I do not think it is possible to compel all local bodies to give education free."

Industries

Number of students in the School of Arts and in the Textile Institute

* 475 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of candidates studying in the School of Arts;

(*b*) the number of students learning in the textile institute; and

(*c*) the exact duties of the Assistant Director of Industries under 'Textile Institute' and what the qualifications are which are required of the holder of the post?

A.—(*a*) 307.

(*b*) 95.

(*c*) The duties are—

(i) Principal of the Government Textile Institute and Textile Expert of the Department of Industries;

(ii) Inspection of aided textile schools; and

(iii) Giving expert advice and technical assistance in improving the work of the textile manufacturing sections of the jails.

The qualification prescribed for the post is a diploma in textiles of the Manchester College of Technology.